



IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Thomas A. Epple

DOCKET NO.: 13776/98509-09

SERIAL NO.: 10/000,315

FILING DATE: October 23, 2001

TITLE: Automatic Pool Cover Box Lid Edge Support Assembly

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

1. Preliminary Statements
2. FORM PTO -1449A/PTO
6. Copies Of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement
10. Identification Of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

**Section 1. Preliminary Statements**

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.



## Section 6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement

Legible copies of all items listed accompany this information statement.

## Section 10. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

The person making this statement is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information in the attorney's file.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees required for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement to deposit account 501896.

Respectfully Submitted:

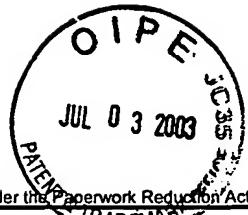
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark E. Mahaffey".

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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</u></p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this <u>27</u> day of <u>June</u>, 2003.</p> <p><u>Jess R. Phillips</u></p>
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PTO/SB/08A (04-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for Form 1449/PTO

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/000,315
Filing Date	October 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	Epple, Thomas A.
Art Unit	3751
Examiner Name	Phillips, Charles E
Attorney Docket Number	13776/98509-09

Sheet

of

## **U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 57993423	09/01/1998	Last	
		US- 6324706 B1	12/04/2001	Epple	
		US- 6384726 B1	05/07/2002	Epple, et al.	
		US- 6393632 B1	05/28/2002	Epple	
		US- 6446276 B2	09/10/2002	Mathis	
		US- 2002/0050004 A1	05/02/2002	Epple	
		US- 2002/0162167 A1	11/07/2002	Epple	
		US- 2003/0084501 A1	05/08/2003	Epple, et al.	
		US- 2003/0084503 A1	05/08/2003	Epple	
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## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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<sup>4</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).<sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.<sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).<sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.<sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.<sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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